

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 19 and AMEND claims 13-14 in accordance with the following:

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) A data distribution method comprising:

inputting a first extraction condition;

extracting a first data group from data registered in a database based on the first extraction condition;

inputting an order condition;

arranging the data in the first data group in a specific order based on the order condition;

inputting a second extraction condition;

extracting a second data group from the database based on the second extraction condition;

extracting common data that is data that belongs to both the first data group arranged in the specific order and the second data group;

inputting an upper limit number;

extracting from the common data first the upper limit number of data as a third data group; and

displaying information about the third data group and other data, which is data in the second data group other than the third data group, in a distinguishable manner.

4. (original) The data distribution method according to claim 3, further comprising:

extracting information about the number of data that belong to the first data group after extracting the first data group; and

displaying the information about the number of data that belong to the first data group

before the inputting of the upper limit number.

5. (original) The data distribution method according to claim 3, further comprising:  
extracting information about the number of data that belong to the first data group after  
extracting the first data group; and  
changing a range of the upper limit number based on the information about the number  
of data extracted.

6. (original) The data distribution method according to claim 3, further comprising  
deciding a fee to be charged for distribution of data based on contents of the common data.

7. (original) A data distribution method comprising:  
inputting a first extraction condition;  
extracting a first data group from data registered in a database based on the first  
extraction condition;  
inputting an order condition;  
arranging the data in the first data group in a specific order based on the order condition;  
inputting a second extraction condition;  
extracting a second data group from the database based on the second extraction  
condition;  
extracting common data that is data that belongs to both the first data group arranged in  
the specific order and the second data group;  
inputting an upper limit number;  
extracting from the common data first the upper limit number of data as a third data  
group;  
extracting from the common data, data other than the third data group as a fourth data  
group;  
displaying information about the third data group, the fourth data group, and other data,  
which is data in the second data group other than the third data group and the fourth data group,  
in a distinguishable manner.

8. (original) The data distribution method according to claim 7, further comprising:  
extracting information about the number of data that belong to the first data group after  
extracting the first data group; and

displaying the information about the number of data that belong to the first data group before the inputting of the upper limit number.

9. (original) The data distribution method according to claim 7, further comprising:  
extracting information about the number of data that belong to the first data group after extracting the first data group; and  
changing a range of the upper limit number based on the information about the number of data extracted.

10. (original) The data distribution method according to claim 7, further comprising deciding a fee to be charged for distribution of data based on contents of the common data.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program that causes makes a computer to execute:

inputting a first extraction condition;  
extracting a first data group from data registered in a database based on the first extraction condition;  
inputting an order condition;  
arranging the data in the first data group in a specific order based on the order condition;  
inputting a second extraction condition;  
extracting a second data group from the database based on the second extraction condition;  
extracting common data that is data that belongs to both the first data group arranged in the specific order and the second data group;  
inputting an upper limit number;  
extracting from the common data first the upper limit number of data as a third data group; and  
displaying information about the third data group and other data, which is data in the second data group other than the third data group, in a distinguishable manner.

14. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program that causes makes a computer to execute:

    inputting a first extraction condition;

    extracting a first data group from data registered in a database based on the first extraction condition;

    inputting an order condition;

    arranging the data in the first data group in a specific order based on the order condition;

    inputting a second extraction condition;

    extracting a second data group from the database based on the second extraction condition;

    extracting common data that is data that belongs to both the first data group arranged in the specific order and the second data group;

    inputting an upper-limit number;

    extracting from the common data first the upper limit number of data as a third data group;

    extracting from the common data, data other than the third data group as a fourth data group;

    displaying information about the third data group, the fourth data group, and other data, which is data in the second data group other than the third data group and the fourth data group, in a distinguishable manner.

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (original) A data distribution apparatus comprising:

    an inputting unit that receives input of a first extraction condition, a second extraction condition, an order condition, and an upper limit number;

    a first extracting unit that extracts a first data group from data registered in a database based on the first extraction condition;

    an arranging unit that arranges the data in the first data group in a specific order based on the order condition;

    a second extracting unit that extracts a second data group from the database based on the second extraction condition, extracts common data that is data that belongs to both the first

data group arranged in the specific order and the second data group, and extracts from the common data first the upper limit number of data as a third data group; and

a display controller that displays information about the third data group and other data, which is data in the second data group other than the third data group, in a distinguishable manner.

18. (original) A data distribution apparatus comprising:

an inputting unit that receives input of a first extraction condition, a second extraction condition, an order condition, and an upper limit number;

a first extracting unit that extracts a first data group from data registered in a database based on the first extraction condition;

an arranging unit that arranges the data in the first data group in a specific order based on the order condition;

a second extracting unit that extracts a second data group from the database based on the second extraction condition, extracts common data that is data that belongs to both the first data group arranged in the specific order and the second data group, extracts from the common data first the upper limit number of data as a third data group, and extracts from the common data, data other than the third data group as a fourth data group; and

a display controller that displays information about the third data group, the fourth data group, and other data, which is data in the second data group other than the third data group and the fourth data group, in a distinguishable manner.

19. (cancelled)